

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit 2877 Application of: Billy R. Masten Serial Number: 09/849831 Filed: 05/04/01 § § § Digital Spectral Identifier-For: Controller and Related Methods

TC 2800 MARINE Examiner: Evans, ROOM

## **Preliminary Amendment** (37 CFR 1.115)

Honorable Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.115, kindly amend the claims 5-7, 16, and 29-31 as set forth below and add claims 32 through 40.

- 5. (Amended). A low cost, high speed spectral sensing method for identifying and 1 collecting information on the physical condition of objects for remote analysis, said method 2
  - comprising the steps of:

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a) sensing the spectral distribution of a plurality of segments of wave lengths of light reflected by the object;

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b) electronically measuring the magnitude of the segments of the reflected wavelengths to define a wide spectrum distribution of light received from said object; and

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